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## PORTO RICO.

*Sanitary report from Ponce.*PONCE, PORTO RICO, *May 29, 1899.*

SIR: I have the honor to inclose herewith weekly quarantine and bill of health reports for the week ended May 27, as well as the mortality reports for the two weeks ended on the same date.

The general health of the city shows little change, and the board of health is still without money to do any really efficient work so far as the general health of the city and its jurisdiction is concerned. I have interested myself in them practically only so far as to keep myself informed of conditions existing. I am ex officio a member of the board of health, and in that capacity I do all that I can, but, since in actual affairs the board is represented by its president (Lieut. H. E. Eames, United States Army), who has been especially detailed for this work, there is little to do except to act occasionally, and in a small way, in an advisory capacity.

During this week Guadaloupe Island has removed quarantine against Ponce.

Two new cases of smallpox occurred in the city during the week, and I inclose the weekly report of infectious diseases, showing the number of cases remaining in the hospitals.

Respectfully, yours,

C. H. LAVINDER,

*Assistant Surgeon, U. S. M. H. S.*

The SUPERVISING SURGEON-GENERAL,

*U. S. Marine-Hospital Service.*

[Inclosure.]

Infectious diseases occurring in Ponce during the week ended May 27, 1899: Smallpox, new cases, 2; measles, new cases, 4; typhoid fever, new cases, 1.

Cases of smallpox in the city and adjacent country, as follows: Hospital at Ponce, 26; Hospital at Sabanetol, 5; total, 31.

*Sanitary report from Ponce.*PONCE, PORTO RICO, *June 5, 1899.*

SIR: I have the honor to transmit herewith the quarantine report and abstract of bills of health for the week ended June 3. I also inclose mortality statistics for the week.

During the month of May there have been 155 deaths from all causes (May, 1898, 180) and 89 births (May, 1898, 52). These figures are taken from the official records in the office of the municipal judge, and include the city of Ponce with its jurisdiction, a population of 49,000.

During the month of May there have been boarded at this station 28 vessels all told, and bills of health have been issued to 45 vessels. With the advent of the rainy season the number of vessels seems to be decreasing. We are now having light showers daily, but the season at present bids fair to be a rather dry one. Concerning the general health of Ponce, I have nothing to add to my last week's report.

The United States transport *Meade*, which sustained injury in leaving the harbor several days ago, and which has been lying in this harbor ever since undergoing repairs, sailed on May 31.

Respectfully, yours,

C. H. LAVINDER,

*Assistant Surgeon, U. S. M. H. S.*

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